

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

FUKUOKA ET AL.

Atty. Ref.: 900-556

Serial No. 10/585,858

Group: 1792

Conf. No. 7745

Filed: July 12, 2006

Examiner: Nathan K. Ford

For: SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING APPARATUS  
AND SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING METHOD  
USING THE SAME

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Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 23, 2010

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

- ☒ All listed documents are attached.
- ☐ Copies of U.S. Patent Publications are not required and are not attached.
- ☐ Listed foreign patent publications and other documents are enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby state that each reference contained in this Information Disclosure

Statement was first cited in a Japanese Office Action dated January 26, 2010. No fee is required.

This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Respectfully submitted,  
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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